SECRET [redacted]

CATEGORY = 4 M = 926

MESSAGE = 0211286Z

2 Sept 72 1792

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[redacted] DATE OF INFORMATION, TO
HANOI TO RELEASE THREE AMERICAN PILOTS [redacted] 2 SEPT 72,
[redacted] TODAY AN
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CHIEF POLITICAL DIRECTORATE OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S ARMY
CONCERNING THE FREEING OF THREE AMERICANAIRMEN, CAPTURED AT DIFFERENT
TIMES...THE ANNOUNCEMENT STATED THAT THE FLIERS WERE BEING FREED ON THE DAY OF
THE VIETNAMESE NATIONAL HOLIDAY AS A SIGN OF GRATITUDE TO ((THAT PART OF THE))
PROGRESSIVE AMERICAN PUBLIC WHICH HAS BEEN CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE END TO US
AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM...THE FLIERS WILL BE TURNED OVER@NO REPRE- SENTATIVES OF
THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WHO ARE TO COME TO HANOI...ONE OF THE FLIERS WAS CAPTURED
17 AUGUST 1968; THE SECOND ON 30 DECEMBER 1971 THE THIRD ON 20 APRIL 1972.$ 2.
[redacted]
THE CHIEF POLITICAL DIRECTORATE OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S
ARMY...ISSUED AN ORDER TO FREE THREE AMERICAN FLIERS...LIEUTENANT MARHEN LIGON
HARTLY, LIEUTENANT NORRIS ALFONSO CHARLES, AJOR EDWARD [redacted]
[redacted] FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
E.O. 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B(2). AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON APPROVAL OF
DIRECTOR. 25Ø Ø5149 ØØØØØ

FOIA(b)1
FOIA(b)3 - 50 USC 403
FOIA(b)3 - 18 USC 798
FOIA(b)3 - P.L. 86-36 sec 6

SECRET [redacted]

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2002